[0099]   SYSTEM AND METHODS OF COOPERATIVELY
LOAD-BALANCING CLUSTERED SERVERS

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[0101]   Abstract of the Invention

[0102]   Host computer systems dynamically engage in independent transactions with servers of a server cluster to request performance of a network service, preferably a policy-based transfer processing of data. The host computer systems operate from an identification of the servers in the cluster to autonomously select servers for transactions qualified on server performance information gathered in prior transactions. Server performance information may include load and weight values that reflect the performance status of the selected server and a server localized policy evaluation of service request attribute information provided in conjunction with the service request. The load selection of specific servers for individual transactions is balanced implicitly through the cooperation of the host computer systems and servers of the server cluster.